Library Bond Act Grant Applications - Cycle 1 Individual Application Summary

Project Name [Number]	Rubidoux Community Library 1040	Current Square Footage	4,828	
Applicant	Riverside, County of	Project Square Footage	39,334	
Operating Library Jurisdiction	Riverside County Library System	Service Area Population:	29,180	
Project Type	New Library			
Project Priority	1st	Anticipated Construction Start Date:	2/10/2003	
Joint Use Type	Joint Venture			
Multipurpose?	NO	Total Project Amount		\$14,171,566
Leased Site:	NO	State Grant Amount		\$8,779,268

Bond Act Factors [California Code of Regulations Title 5, Section 19998 (a)]

	Rated	Other
Needs of urban and rural areas:		[see map]
Population growth:		195%
Financial capacity of applicant to open and maintain operation of the library (new libraries only):		Yes
Age and condition of existing library:	Poor Condition (= Very Good)	
Inadequacy of the existing library in meeting needs of residents and the response of proposed project to meeting the needs:	Acceptable	
Plan of Service integrates appropriate electronic technology:	Acceptable	
Appropriateness of proposed site for the proposed project:	Very Good	
Overall Pating:	Accontable	

Overall Rating: Acceptable

Summary of Review Panel Comments

Population Growth 194.6%

Age and Condition The existing library was built in 1971 and has not been renovated. Major deficiencies of the current facility: inadequate space for all areas without space for expansion; remote location in a high crime area; aging facility in need of major repair.

Needs of residents/response of proposed project to needs The needs assessment process provided limited opportunities for the residents to participate. The process was conducted primarily by an advisory committee in conjunction with the library and school administration, and the Friends of the Library group. Information was gleaned from Development Agency meeting comments. A survey of parents was limited to asking for reaction to a predetermined set of library services. Analysis of demographic characteristics was cursory at best. Library service needs are therefore not based on the findings of the needs assessment. Services to students were determined by surveying parents, who were asked to rank a predetermined list of library services. Services by student age group are not considered -- only students in general.

The plan of service follows the needs determined by the advisory committee during the needs assessment process. Goal, objectives, implementation steps, and service indicators are specific and well written. Essentially, the library will continue and expand services currently in place. Many services will be provided in both English and Spanish.

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The building program: The general requirements section of the building program is cursory. Most space descriptions are not adequate to give the reader an understanding of what activities will occur in a space, which is a detriment to the design solution.

The conceptual plans: Square footage for some spaces has been reduced significantly from the building program requirements (e.g., A/V library; staff offices), but most are on target. Non-assignable square footage is not shown on the plan. Elevations and building sections are very rudimentary.

The Joint use agreement: Computer Center, Family Literacy Center & Homework Center The agreement lacks clarity on a number of levels. The services to be provided are listed but not specified. It is unclear if this is a joint venture service or an agreement to let the school district operate a family literacy program in a portion of the library. Funding is mentioned only generally in terms of staffing and furnishing the literacy center.

Plan of Service Integrates Appropriate Technology The application of technology is considered in the planning documents. The library will open with 27 public PCs and 40 staff PCs, with an additional 30 PCs in the Gates Foundation Computer Lab. Planning documents indicate the need to be poised to expand electronic access for future needs. Of concern is the statement in the planning documents that technology is not a significant aspect of providing literacy services to the community, which is contrary to current practice.

Appropriateness of Proposed Site The potential site is located on a corner site within the Rubidoux Revitalization District and the Jurupa Valley Redevelopment Project Area, and is on the two major thoroughfares for the community. Also in close proximity are a residential area, senior center, and senior housing project that is a part of the revitalization plan. Six public schools are within close proximity to the site. The site is accessible by public and private transportation, by bicycle, and by foot. The library plans include a footpath from the senior housing complex and the adjoining community center. The amount of bicycle parking appears to be minimal considering the close proximity to a public school, and automobile parking also appears to be minimal considering the location on major thoroughfares.

Financial Capacity The applicant has committed to the on-going operation of the completed library.

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